Columbia: Introduction

Category: Columbia

Columbia, an SGI Altix supercomuter named to honor the crew of Space Shuttle Columbia flight STS-107, has been in production since 2004. In March 2008, the system had 14,136 cores in 24 nodes (Columbia1-Columbia24). When the Pleiades system came into production, the original 20 Columbia nodes (1-20) were retired. Columbia currently comprises 1 front-end node (cfe2) and 4 compute nodes (Columbia21-Columbia24).

The following few articles provide Columbia hardware information at varying levels of detail:

Columbia Hardware Overview provides a high-level overview of the Columbia system architecture, including resource summaries of the compute- and front-end nodes, the interconnect, and storage capacity.

Columbia Configuration Details focuses on more detailed configuration statistics of the processors and their associated memory.

The article Columbia Home Filesystem - provides information on the quota and backup policies on the home filesystem.

The article Columbia CXFS Filesystems - details the configurations of the CXFS filesystems and users' quotas on these filesystems.

In addition, the article Columbia Front-End Usage Guidelines provides guidelines on using the front-end node (cfe2).

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